

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ERDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05
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SP-02 SS-15 STR-05 TRSE-00 ACDA-10 FEA-01 /118 W
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FM AMCONSUL CALGARY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2141
INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
ALL CONGENS IN CANADA POUCH

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ENRG, CA

SUBJ: REACTION TO NORTHERN GAS PIPELINE AGREEMENT

1. PRESIDENT CARTER S DECISION TO RECOMMEND ALCAN ROUTE FOR A NORTHERN GAS PIPELINE WAS WARMLY RECEIVED IN ALBERTA. ALBERTA PREMIER LOUGHEED STATED THAT THE AGREEMENT TO BUILD A NATURAL GAS PIPELINE THROUGH CANADA WOULD BE "TREMENDOUSLY POSITIVE" FOR THE PROVINCE AND WOULD ENCOURAGE A MUCH-SOUGHT AFTER SHIFT OF ECONOMIC POWER TO THE WEST. LOUGHEED REITERATED THAT THE ALCAN PROJECT WOULD BE A SUITABLE INVESTMENT FOR THE ALBERTA HERITAGE FUND.

2. EDMONTON JOURNAL EDITORIALIZED THAT PIPELINE DECISION OFFERED THE GREATEST BENEFIT TO BOTH AMERICANS AND CANADIANS, WHILE CALGARY HERALD OBSERVED THAT PIPELINE TERMS WERE "GOOD FOR CANADA, TOO". OTHER MEDIA REACTION WAS EQUALLY POSITIVE.

3. OIL INDUSTRY EXECUTIVES WELCOMED AGREEMENT ON ALCAN PROJECT AS IT PROVIDES POSSIBLE VEHICLE FOR TRANSPORTATION OF MACKENZIE DELTA GAS AND BASIS FOR ARRANGING GAS SWAPS WITH U.S. ALBERTA S ENERGY MINISTER INDICATED THAT THE
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PROVINCE IS WILLING TO SEND LARGE QUANTITIES OF SURPLUS NATURAL GAS TO U.S. IN EXCHANGE FOR A FUTURE "EVEN-UP ENERGY SWAP".

4. FOOTHILLS PRESIDENT ROBERT BLAIR TOLD A CALGARY PRESS CONFERENCE THAT CANADA IS DOING THE UNITED STATES "A FAVOR" BY ALLOWING ALASKA NATURAL GAS TO MOVE THROUGH CANADA AND

CANADIANS MAY ONE DAY WANT TO HAVE THAT FAVOR REPAID.
QUESTIONED BY REPORTERS, BLAIR NOTED THAT "THERE ARE
OBVIOUSLY MANY PLACES WHERE THE UNITED STATES CAN AFFORD
SOME TRADE ADVANTAGE TO CANADA".
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Message Attributes

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